

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03 H-03 IO-14

NIC-01 DODE-00 SCCT-02 SY-04 OPR-02 PM-07 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /172 W

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R 121437Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7664

INFO USCINCSO

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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE WORKERS UNION INTERVENES CORDOBA LOCAL

REF BA 5892

1. FACED WITH CORDOBA LOCAL UNION OPEN DEFIANCE MINLABOR AND NATIONAL LABOR LEADERSHIP OVER IKA-RENAULT AFFAIR, AUG 8 NATIONAL SMATA PLENARY CONGRESS VOTED TO INTERVENE CORDOBA LOCAL. DECISION INCLUDED UNUSUAL STEP OF EXPELLING FROM UNION ENTIRE CORDOBA LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD. NATIONAL SMATA SEC GEN RODRIGUEZ STATED THAT INTERVENTOR WOULD BE NAMED AND NEW ELECTIONS CALLED. MINLABOR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT CORDOBA LOCAL UNION'S BANK ACCOUNTS HAVE BEEN FROZEN. IN OBVIOUS PREPARATION ANY CONTINGENCY, RODRIGUEZ HELD AUG 8 MEETINGS WITH MINISTERS LABOR, DEFENSE AND INTERIOR.

2. DURING AUG 8 STRIKE RALLY IN CORDOBA, LOCAL SMATA SEC GEN
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SALAMANCA STATED THAT SHOULD THE LOCAL BE INTERVENED "WE WILL

CONTINUE FIGHTING WHEREVER POSSIBLE TO DEFEND THE WORKERS". HE ADDED THAT "CORDOBA IS PREPARING FOR ANOTHER 'CORDOBAZA' AND WE WILL CONTINUE THE BATTLE". MONTONERO LEADER FIRMENICH ADDRESSED THE RALLY AND STATED THAT "I BRING OUR SUPPORT TO SMATA, INCLUDING IF NECESSARY MONTONERO BLOOD". TORTSSYITE LIGHT AND POWER LEADER AUGSTIN TOSCO ALSO PROMISED HIS FULL SUPPORT TO SMATA IN ITS ANTICIPATED BATTLE WITH THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

3. COMMENT. WITH THE POSITIONS ON BOTH SIDES HARDENING, THE LIKELIHOOD OF SERIOUS CONFLICT HAS INCREASED. THE ONLY BRIGHT SPOT ON THE HORIZON WAS THE DECISION BY THE LEGALIST PERONIST FOLLOWERS OF ATILIO LOPEZ TO DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM THE STRIKE. SHOULD VIOLENCE OCCUR, IT WILL MORE LIKELY BE FAR LESS SEVERE THAN IF THE LEGALISTS HAD JOINED WITH SALAMANCA'S GROUP.

HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, AUTOMOBILE WORKERS, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR DISPUTES, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BUENOS05987
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740221-1148
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740856/aaaabwcp.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BA 5892
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE WORKERS UNION INTERVENES CORDOBA LOCAL
TAGS: ELAB, AR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005